

General Counsel's Office
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

February 5, 2012

RE: MUR 6521

Dear General Counsel's Office,

I received your letter January 24, 2012 about MUR 6521 which concerns a complaint filed by Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW) against the Republican Party of Minnesota and myself individually.

In your letter you ask for reasons why no action should be taken against me individually. As I am currently unemployed and have no funds for an attorney, I will outline in my own words why I believe no action should be taken against me individually.

To put it simply, any actions I took were made in my capacity as State Chair of the Republican Party of Minnesota, and not acting individually.

CREW's complaint is based primarily on newspaper stories which do not paint an accurate or complete picture. The debts mentioned in the newspaper stories include items not required to be reported to the FEC (primarily revolving around the debts of the 2010 recount in the Minnesota Governor's race).

CREW's complaint is also based on newspaper quotes from Republican National Committeewoman Pat Anderson, which at best are inaccurate. It is well known in Minnesota that Anderson and I have recently been strong political foes concerning the expansion of gambling in Minnesota. Anderson, who ran for State Auditor in 2010, also believes the State Party should have spent more money on her election and as a consequence blames me for her defeat. Therefore the motivations behind her statements are suspect.

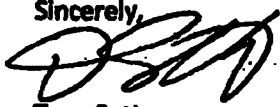
More importantly, her statements are just not accurate. For example, staff, as well as myself, spoke to the State Party Treasurer at least once a week and often several times a week. In addition, the Treasurer received daily finance reports.

CREW also mentions that I filed "materially false reports". That is inaccurate. I did not prepare or file the reports as State Chair. In fact, as a result of our previous FEC issues, we hired an outside firm with FEC compliance expertise that worked with the Treasurer for the purposes of filing federal and state reports.

In summary, if any mistakes were made they were inadvertent and acting in my capacity as State Chair, not acting individually.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (612) 868-2311 or agsutton@msn.com.

Sincerely,



Tony Sutton

Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076

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